

Claims

1. (Currently amended) A movable sinker apparatus of a weft knitting machine having front and rear needle beds opposed to each other with a needle bed gap interposed therebetween, the movable sinker apparatus comprising:

sinkers arranged next to knitting needles,
a knitting fabric being knitted by an interaction with knitting needles by applying a force of a spring so as to press down front end portions of the sinkers, and base portions of the sinkers being supported in a swingingly displaceable manner on the needle beds in the vicinity of the needle bed gap, and recessed portions for retaining and pressing down a knitting yarn of a previous loop that has been knitted being formed as knitting yarn receiving portions on front end portions of the sinkers moving forward into the needle bed gap,

wherein the front end portion of the sinker has a shape of an arm extending to a lower portion of the needle bed gap in a circumferential direction with a substantially constant radius from the base portion,

wherein on a portion closer to the front ends from a knitting yarn receiving portions on the arm are formed protruding portions that project outward in radial directions of swinging displacements
~~are formed in the front end portions of the sinkers on a portion closer to~~

~~the front ends from the knitting yarn receiving portions,~~
when the protruding portions are on a straight line
linking between centers of swinging displacements of the
base portions that are supported by the needle beds, the
protruding portions of the sinkers are positioned closest
toward the needle beds opposed thereto, and inclined faces
inclined toward inner sides in the radial direction are
respectively formed on the front end side and on the base
portion side in the circumferential direction, and

wherein the protruding portions of the sinkers
provided on the needle beds that are opposed to each other
pull down a knitting fabric in a lower portion of the
needle bed gap, sandwiching the fabric therebetween.

2. (Currently amended) A sinker for use in a movable
sinker apparatus having a base portion which is supported
in a swingingly displaceable manner in a vicinity of a
needle bed gap on a needle bed and a front end portion
which is moved forward to the needle bed gap to knit a
knitting fabric by an interaction with a knitting needle,
the sinker comprising:

a front end portion having a shape of an arm
extending to a lower portion of the needle bed gap in a
circumferential direction with a substantially constant
radius from the base portion,

wherein the sinker is shaped into a plate,
wherein on the arm are formed a first protruding
portion that is formed between the base portion and the
front end and that projects in a circumferential direction
on the front end side, and a second protruding portion
that is formed on a portion closer to the front end on the
arm from the first protruding portion and that projects
outward in a radial direction centered on the base portion,
wherein on the base portion side in the
circumferential direction in the first protruding portion,
a knitting stitch forming edge used when a knitting yarn
is pulled in with a hook of a knitting needle is formed,
and
wherein in the second protruding portion, inclined
faces inclined toward inner sides in the radial direction
are respectively formed on the front end side and on the
base portion side on the arm.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)